City of Shoreacres



MEETING MINUTES

The City Council of the City of Shoreacres, Texas, met in Regular Session on Monday, September 24, 2012 at 7:03 p.m.

in the City Council Chambers of City Hall, 601 Shore Acres Blvd., Shoreacres, Texas with the following present constituting a quorum:

Mayor

Dolly Arons

Mayor pro tem

Richard Adams

Alderwoman

Dana Woodruff [absent]

Alderwoman

Connie Ramirez [absent]

Alderman

Matt Webber

Alderman

Steven Jones

City Administrator / City Secretary

David K. Stall

1.0 **CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL:**

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Dolly Arons at 7:03 p.m.

2.0 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3.0 SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Economic Alliance, annual Report to Council - President Chad Burke

Mr. Burke gave an annual update of the Alliances many accomplishments for the year. Listed below are a few of them:

- o One of the Alliance's most recognizable project is the Gateway Project, in which the Alliance worked together with various City officials to construct/design a grand entrance into each of their Cities. The City of Shoreacres illuminated electronic sign is one of many completed Gateway projects in our area.
- o Worked with area high school and colleges to produce much needed technical skilled workers for industries in our area.
- o Worked to improve the image of our area through the San Jacinto Art Mural projects that are featured on some of the holding tanks on Hwv 225.
- Worked with TxDOT on the Texas Star project that will be painted on the overpasses within our regions.
- o Helped to attract businesses to our area by offering tax benefits which in turns will help our local economy.
- Helped to pushed the expansion project of Hwy 146 through the City of Seabrook with a much earlier completion time frame of approximately 5 years.

National Night Out:

Acting Chief David Newman announced the Shoreacres Police Department together with the Civic Association will be sponsoring our second annual National Night Out, which will be held at Circle Park on Tuesday, October 2 at 6:00 p.m., there will be many goodies for the kids and adults as well. Please come out and meet your neighbors at this annual event.

4.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Regular Council Meeting: August 27, 2012.

There was a motion to approve the minutes of August 27, 2012. [Richard Adams / Second: Matt Webber]. Motion carried unanimously.

5.0 COUNCIL REPORTS & REQUESTS

Mayor Arons clarify the Revised Rules of Order and Procedure for the conduct of City Council Meetings and other items listed below:

In regards to Public Comments at City Council Meetings, Mayor Arons would like to report the following rules from a couple of our neighboring city in comparison to the City of Shoreacres:

- The City of La Porte Council allowed each citizen 5 minutes under the Public Comments. The citizen cannot speak/comments on any other items on the agenda and the City Administrator cannot respond to any questions during his administrative report.
- The City of Morgan's Point Council mirrored the same rules as La Porte yet only allowed the citizen 3 minutes under the Public Comments.
- The City of Shoreacres allows citizens 5 minutes under the Public Comments, plus accepting additional comments/questions under each agenda items. Also, as appropriate, the City Administrator does respond to questions raised by citizens during his administrative report. In conclusion, at the current time, Mayor Arons would like to continue with this practice.

Next Monday, October 1, the City will have a special budget meeting where the City Administrator will present the budget and citizens will have a chance to comments. There will not be any budget decision made on October 1. There will be a budget adoption and a formal public hearing on October 8.

Mayor pro-tem Adams reported on the following:

- Mr. Adams attended the SEACAP meeting, industries in our area are aiming for less emissions output in the future.
- The POH reported on the new website design, they've added a Community Outreach link for interested citizens.
- Attended the La Porte Health & Safety Fair and it was a good turnout.

6.0 PUBLIC HEARINGS & PUBLIC COMMENTS

6.1 Citizen's Comments:

<u>511 Baywood</u> - Mr. Howard Dahl announced the Shoreacres Civic Association Annual Bar-B-Q Cook-Off benefiting Heron Park Pathway Restoration Project. The event will kick off with a Bloody Mary & Margarita Taste Off Contest on Friday night October 26 then the Bar-B-Q Contest October 27.

<u>3342 Miramar</u> - Mr. Sid Wells requested information on the community discount for homeowners on flood insurance.

The City Administrator, Mr. Stall responded that "What Mr. Wells is referring to is the Community Rating System (CRS), which currently, the City is in the application process and we are anticipating an approval date of July 2013. The discount rate will be about 5% upon renewal. There is no required action from the homeowners; when their flood insurance policy is up for renewal, the insurance company will apply the discount to their client's policy."

<u>3342 Miramar</u> - Ms. Charlotte Wells requested information on Harris County Precinct 2 mosquito spraying opt-out policy and any information regarding the chemical make-up of the pesticides that are being use for mosquito preventation.

<u>1009 Forest</u> – Ms. Anita Willis reported on the following:

- o Attended the La Porte Health and Safety Fair on September 22
- The expired/un-used drugs turned in program is headed by the United Way. For more information please check the United Way website.
- The fountain at the retention pond on Hwy 146 & Wharton Weems is still not working. It is a breeding ground for mosquitoes.

128 Shadylawn – Mr. Patrick Stanton has the following comments:

- Would like the results of the online budget survey that were emailed to the residents earlier last week.
- Noticed that there is a lot of ditch cleaning going around the City, which is great. But there are some ditches that still have standing water in them.
- POH had agreed to set up a citizen committees for problem solving, status?
- Would like to inform the City of an injured Heron at Boggy Bayou, that is in need of medical help.

7.0 ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

- 7.1 City Administrator Mr. David Stall reported on the following:
 - The City spent \$15,000 in ditch maintenance work. There was no culvert work at all. Our Public Works department is on schedule with cleaning out the ditches.
 - The Survey results will be announced at next council meeting.
 - This past weekend there was a deceased dolphin that had washed up on Shell Beach. Our staff alerted the appropriate state authority,

who took samples for testing to determine the cause of death. At their request, our public works staff assisted with the burial.

 For the safety of our residents, we've requested, and TxDOT acknowledged our concerns, and they have extended the acceleration lane southbound of Hwy. 146.

<u>Telecommunication system installation</u>: the project is currently on hold due to vendor delay.

TxCDBG Round 1 repair of Water Plant #1 is progressing as expected.

TxCDBG Round 1 repair and improvements to sewer Lift Stations #1, #2 and #3 - All three lift stations are at substantial completion and the City is operating on all three wells.

Status of vehicle accident damage at Lift Station #2 and pending claims: We are currently working with our TML Risk Pool insurance in pursuing insurance claims and will meet with the adjuster this week. There is a total of 3 insurance companies involved - [1] The contractor, builder's risk policy and the [2] drivers insurance policies. Despite the fact that there is damage to the lift station, it is currently operational.

Financial Report:

General fund balance:	\$76,778.57
Utility fund	\$47,419.82
TxCDBG fund [pass thru]	\$328,317.11
TexPool account	\$953,810.68
[3] CD's account	\$247 408 02

8.0 BUSINESS

8.1 Consideration and approval of invoices.

There was a motion to pay our bills [Matt Webber / Second: Richard Adams]. Motion carried unanimously.

8.2 <u>Consideration and action to adopt Resolution No. 2012-97 designating a representative and alternate to the Houston-Galveston Area Council 2012 General Assembly.</u>

There was a motion to keep Ms. Connie Ramirez as the City's HGAC representative and nominate Mr. Steven Jones as an alternate. [Richard Adams / Second: Matt Webber]. Motion carried unanimously.

8.3 <u>Discussion and possible action regarding the effective use of the city's Connect 5</u> (Blackboard) telephone notification system.

At the request of Councilman Steven Jones, Mr. Stall presented the following:

The City currently has a total of 710 BlackBoard Connect accounts

- o 534 were entered from phone company records
- o 146 were signed up by the residents through our website.
- 30 were entered manually by our staff at the request of the residents

Further break down:

0	670	are residents
0	15	are businesses
0	25	are City employees
0	252	telephone contact only
0	156	e-mail and telephone contact
0	86	SMS [cell phone messaging]

We are planning a recruitment of our citizens for BlackBoard messaging via postcard direct mail-out.

8.4 <u>Discussion and possible action regarding the status and schedule for consideration of changes to zoning regulation of garages; creating a new public use zoning district; and, modification of the zoning district map.</u>

Mr. Stall reported that the City attorney has drafted an ordinance regarding this subject. In an effort to conserve costs, we are working together with the Planning & Zoning Board members and Councils on a concurring meeting and public hearing date.

8.5 <u>Discussion of city policies and procedures related to utility billing:</u>

Mr. Stall offered the following explanations:

- Would like to re-affirm that all water meters are being read monthly.
- The fluctuation in the May & June water bill is due to the misinterpretation of meter reading schedule by our new hires. They did not realize that by reading the meters earlier than scheduled, it would cause havoc to our customers.
- July's bill was late due to rain and holiday.
- Held a meeting with our staff to further emphasize the importance of reading all water meters according to schedule.
- With all being said, we are striving to complete all meter readings every month between the 1st and the 5th day of the month.
- 8.6 <u>Discussion and action to schedule a Public Hearing for the City's FY-2012/2013</u> Operating Budgets.

We have scheduled October 1, for budget presentation and October 8 for public hearing and budget adoption. There was a motion to schedule the City's FY 2012/2013 Operating Budgets Public Hearing on October 8 at 7 p.m. [Matt Webber / Second: Steven Jones]. Motion carried unanimously.

8.7 Consideration and action to adopt Resolution No. 2012-98 adopting a Section 3 plan to comply with Section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968 as it applies to the City of Shoreacres' Community Development Block Grant - Disaster Recovery Funded Projects.

Mr. Stall explained - one of the requirement conditions of HUD, is that all cities currently accepting/receiving federal funds, are obligated to comply with Section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968, which outlined that all new hire employments are to be offered to low & moderate income residents in the greater community area. The City is in compliance with HUD's requirement of our hiring practices and with the adoption of Resolution No. 2012-98, we will be in compliance, not only for the TxCDBG grant, but also for all future grants. There was a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2012-98. [Richard Adams / Second: Steven Jones]. Motion carried unanimously.

9.0 ADJOURNMENT

There was a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:37 pm.

PASSED AND APPROVED ON THIS 12TH DAY OF OCTOBER, 2012.

Dolly Arons, Mayor

ATTEST

David K. Stall, CFM

City Administrator / Zity Secretary